

**CLAIMS**

1. Oral pharmaceutical or dietary composition containing at least one short-chain fatty acid or salt, ester and/or amide thereof, in combination with a complex sugar and/or dietary fibre and with one or more pharmacologically acceptable excipients.
2. Composition according to Claim 1 in which the short-chain fatty acid is a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> monocarboxylic organic acid.
3. Composition according to Claim 1 in which the short-chain fatty acid is selected from: acetic acid, propionic acid, butyric acid, and isovaleric acid, preferably butyric acid.
4. Composition according to Claim 1 in which the short-chain fatty acid is butyric acid.
5. Composition according to Claim 1 in which the complex sugar or dietary fibre is selected from: inulin, pectin, dextrin, maltodextrin, or derivatives thereof.
6. Composition according to any one of the preceding claims in which a quantity of from 5 to 50% by weight of the short-chain fatty acid is included.
7. Composition according to any one of the preceding claims in which a quantity of from 10 to 30% by weight of the short-chain fatty acid is included.
8. Composition according to any one of the preceding claims in which a quantity of from 5 to 50% by weight of the soluble dietary fibre is included.
9. Composition according to any one of the preceding claims in which a quantity of from 10 to 30% by weight of the soluble dietary fibre is included.
10. Oral pharmaceutical or dietary composition according to any one of the preceding claims in tablet, capsule, granule and/or micro-granule form.

11. Oral pharmaceutical or dietary composition according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is an intestinal controlled-release composition.
12. Oral pharmaceutical or dietary composition according to any one of the preceding claims, containing a gastro-resistant coating.
13. Use of a short-chain fatty acid in combination with a soluble dietary fibre for the preparation of a pharmaceutical or dietary composition for the treatment of intestinal disorders, inflammatory disorders, and pathological conditions of the intestinal mucous membrane and for the preventive or limiting treatment of intestinal neoplasia.
14. Use according to Claim 13 in which the short-chain fatty acid is a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> monocarboxylic organic acid.
15. Use according to any one of the preceding claims in which the short-chain fatty acid is selected from: acetic acid, propionic acid, butyric acid, and isovaleric acid, preferably butyric acid.
16. Use according to any one of the preceding claims in which the short-chain fatty acid is butyric acid.
17. Use according to any one of the preceding claims in which the complex sugar or dietary fibre is selected from: inulin, pectin, dextrin, maltodextrin, or derivatives thereof.
18. Use according to any one of the preceding claims in which a quantity of from 5 to 50% by weight of the short-chain fatty acid is included.
19. Use according to any one of the preceding claims in which a quantity of from 10 to 30% by weight of the short-chain fatty acid is included.

20. Use according to any one of the preceding claims in which a quantity of from 5 to 50% by weight of the soluble dietary fibre is included.
21. Use according to any one of the preceding claims in which a quantity of from 10 to 30% by weight of the soluble dietary fibre is included.
22. Use according to any one of the preceding claims in tablet, capsule, granule and/or micro-granule form.
23. Use according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized by intestinal controlled release.
24. Use according to any one of the preceding claims, including a gastro-resistant coating.